

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-8, 26-28, 31- 53, and amend the claims as follows:

1-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method for disabling on-demand resources on a computerized apparatus, comprising:

receiving a disablement code comprising encrypted data;

validating the disablement code, the validating comprising:

generating a first key using system information unique to the computerized apparatus;

decrypting the encrypted data using a second key to produce decrypted data;

encrypting a value to produce an encrypted value wherein the encrypting is done using an encryption key selected from one of (i) the decrypted data and (ii) the first key;

decrypting the encrypted value to produce a decrypted value wherein the decrypting is done using (i) the first key if the value was encrypted using the decrypted data as the encryption key and (ii) the decrypted data if the value was encrypted using the first key as the encryption key; and

comparing the value to the decrypted value; and

disabling at least one on-demand resource if the validating is successful, thereby rendering the disabled on-demand resource unavailable for use by users of the computerized apparatus, wherein the disabled on-demand resource is a hardware resource of the computerized apparatus.

10. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 9 wherein the validating is successful if the value and the decrypted value are the same.

11. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 9 wherein the decrypted data is identical to the first key.

12. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 9 wherein decrypting the encrypted data is performed by a smart chip containing the second key.

13. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 9 wherein the at least one on-demand resource was previously enabled to allow a user to request usage of the at least one on-demand resource.

14. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 9 wherein, prior to the disabling, the at least one on-demand resource is enabled to allow a user to request usage of the at least one on-demand resource and wherein disabling comprises preventing the user from requesting usage of the at least one on-demand resource.

15. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 9 wherein the at least one on-demand resource is a processor.

16. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 9 wherein the at least one on-demand resource comprises one of memory and storage.

17. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 9 wherein the disablement code is input by a user.

18 – 19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for controlling availability of on-demand resources on a computerized apparatus, comprising:
receiving an enablement code for an on-demand resource;
validating the enablement code;

upon validating the enablement code, enabling the on-demand resource, whereby usage of the on-demand resource may be requested by a user;

receiving a disablement code for an on-demand resource comprising encrypted data;

validating the disablement code wherein the validating comprises:

generating a first key using system information unique to the computerized apparatus,

decrypting the encrypted data using a second key to produce decrypted data,

encrypting a value, using the first key as an encryption key, to produce an encrypted value,

decrypting the encrypted value, using the decrypted data as a decryption key, to produce a decrypted value, and

comparing the value to the decrypted value; and

disabling the on-demand resource, wherein the disabled on-demand resource is a hardware resource of the computerized apparatus; whereby usage of the on-demand resource may no longer be requested by the user.

21. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 20 wherein validating the enablement code and validating the disablement code are performed by the same algorithm.

22. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 20 wherein enabling comprises unlocking the on-demand resource.

23. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 20 wherein the on-demand resource is computer hardware.

24. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 20 wherein the on-demand resource is selected from one of processors, memory and storage.

25. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 20 wherein validating the disablement code comprises verifying that the disablement code is unique to the on-demand resource.

26. - 28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method of claim ~~[[27]]~~ 20 wherein the decrypting is performed by a smart chip containing the second key.

30. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method of claim ~~[[27]]~~ 20 wherein the encrypted data was encrypted using a copy of the second key at a remote location.

31. - 53. (Cancelled)